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ARTICLES

To bee enquired of by the Miniſter, Church-wardens, and Side-men of euery Pariſh, and Precinct, within the Arch-Deaconry of LINCOLNE.

Giuen in charge, in the viſitation of the Right Worſhipfull Mr. MORGAN WINNE Doctor of Diuinity, Arch-deacon of LINCOLNE.

ſitation at 23 anno Iunij 1637.

LONDON,
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The forme of the Oath miniſtered unto the Churchwardens and Sidemen.

YOu ſhall ſweare, that you, and euery of you, ſhall duely conſider, and diligently inquire of all theſe Articles giuen you in charge, and that all fauour, hatred, hope of reward, feare of diſpleaſure, or any other corrupt affection ſet aſide, you ſhall preſent vnto vs, or our Officiall, all and euery ſuch perſon which now is, or lately was in your Pariſh, as haue committed any Inceſt, adultery, fornication, profanation of the Lords day, or contempt of authoritie againſt the gouernement of the Church of England, or refuſe to pay their dutie to the Church, or duely to execute the office that lieth vpon them, or haue committed any offence or default compriſed in any of theſe Articles, or which are vehemently ſuſpected, or defamed of any ſuch offence or default. Wherein you ſhall deale according to an vpright conſcience, neither preſenting, nor ſparing to preſent, any perſon contrary to truth; hauing in this action God before your eyes, with an earneſt zeale to maintaine truth, and to ſuppreſſe vice. So helpe you God and his faithfull promiſes in Ieſus Chriſt.

The charge of the Church-wardens and Side-men, set downe for the better *performance of their office and discharge of their Oathes.*

YOu are charged, that after you are sworne and admitted to your office of Church-wardenship, at some conuenient time before euery visitation, you require your Minister to read ouer to you the booke of Canons, set forth by authority *Anno Dom.* 1604. and also these Articles, and to consider of euery particular article, and of the offences inquired of in the same: and also of such in your parish as are or haue bin noted and vehemently suspected to offend in the same or any of them. And you are to make your bill of presentment, and answering to euery article which concernes your parish seuerally by it selfe, subscribing your names seuerally. And your Minister is to take notice, that according to the 26. Canon he is to looke to it, that the Church-wardens omit not to doe their duties in presenting: that so while euery man in his office and calling doth performe his duty with a good conscience, the godly discipline of the Church of England may be duely and without scandall executed, offences duely corrected, and the vnity of the Church to Gods glorie maintained and secured.

Articles

ARTICLES TO BE ENQVIRED OF BY THE Minister, Church-wardens, and Sidemen of euery Parish, and Precinct, within the Arch-deaconry of LINCOLNE.

Concerning the Church.

YET YER haue you in your Church all things requisite for the Common Prayer and due administration of the Sacraments, according to his Maiesties lawes and Canons Ecclesiasticall lately established: and namely, a faire Bible, the booke of Common Prayer authorised, a Font of stone set vp in the ancient vsuall place, a decent Communion Table, with a Carpet of Silke, or some other semely stuffe, and a faire Linnen cloth to lay thereon at the time of the Communion, a faire Communion Cup with a couer of siluer, a decent Pulpit with a cloth and Cushion for the same, a conuenient seat to read Seruice in, a comely large Surplisse, a strong Chest for Almes for the poor, hauing three locks and keyes, and another Chest for the keeping of the Ornaments of the Church and the Church Register booke: and whether haue you a Register booke of Parchment, of all Christenings, weddings, and burialls: and whether is the same kept according to the Canons? Canon. 82. 81. 82. 83. 14. 70.

2 Whether your Church, or Chappell, Chancell and Churchyard be kept in good reparations, as well within as without: whether any prophanation be vsed in them, or any man hath incroached vpon them, or pulled downe any part of the Church or Chancell without licence first obtained from the ordinary? Whether hath there bin in your parish Church or Church-yard any 85. 88.

Playes, Feasts, Faires, Temporall Courts, or Leets, lay Juries, Pulkers, or other prophane vsage and meetings in either of them, and by what persons, and whether your Parsonage or Vicarage house and all the housing thereunto belonging, bee likewise maintained in sufficient reparations: if not, through whose default is it: and what is the defect:

78. 3 Whether haue you a Terrier of all the Gleabes, Lands, Meadowes, Gardens, Orchards, Houses, Stockes, Implements, Tenements, and portions of Tythes lying within or without your Parish, which belong vnto your Parsonage, or Vicarage, and in whose hands it doth remaine:

Concerning the Minister.

14. 4 Whether diuine Seruice be said in your Church by your Minister distinctly and reuerently, on all Sundayes
15. and holydayes appointed to be obserued by the lawes of England, and on their Eues, and on Wednesdayes and Fridayes at conuenient and vsuall times: and whether doth he in ministring the Sacraments, solemnizing of Matrimony, visitation of the sicke, burying of the dead, churching of women, and all other Rites and offices of the Church, vse the formes of Prayers prescribed in the Booke of Common Prayer, without any Omission, or Ad-
58. dition: and whether doth he read the booke of Canons once yearly, and weare a Surplisse according to the Canon:

22. 5 Whether doth your Minister solemnly giue warning to his Parishioners for the administration of the holy Communion, and
64. for the obseruation of all holidayes, and fasting-dayes: and
67. whether doth hee visit the sicke, and exhort them to giue to
84. the poore: and whether doth he conferre with Recusants in your
66. Parish (if there be any) according to the Canons: and whether
62. doth hee admit to the holy Communion any Church-warden
27. who neglecting his Oath hath omitted to present any notori-
28. ous offenders, or any publike Iuries, or hath he admitted any
29. Schismatickes, or strangers, or reiect any who are not by presentment, or publike scandall infamous for some notorious crime: and whether doth he admit any Father to be Godfather to his owne child, or any to be Godfathers and Godmothers,

which

which haue not receiued the holy Communion? and whether doth he not vse the signe of the Crosse in Baptisme, or doth baptize in any Basin, or other Vessell, and not in the vsuall Font, or doth baptize any Children that were not borne within the Parish? and whether doth he marry any in any exempt place, or 62.
without banes published three seuerall Sundayes or holydayes, 63.
or without a sufficient dispensation or licence, or without licence in times prohibited, Videlicet, from the Sunday next before Aduent Sunday vntill the 14. of Ianuary, and from the Saturday next before Septuagesima vntill Munday after low-Sunday, and from the Sunday before Rogation weeke vntill Trinity Sunday; albeit the Banes were thrice published, or not betweene the houres of Eight and Twelue in the forenoone, or 100.
(if the parties be vnder the age of One and Twentie yeares) before their Parents or Gouernours haue signified their consents vnto him? and whether doth he refuse to Christen, or to 68.
burie, or deferre the same any longer than he should? and whether by his default any child hath dyed without baptisme in your Parish? 69.

6 Whether doth he preach, minister the Communion, baptize 71.
Children, vnlesse in case of necessitie, solemnize marriage, or church women in priuate houses? or doth he keepe or suffer any Fasts, Prophesies, Exercises, or Exorcismes, without lawfull 72.
authority? or doth he hold or suffer any priuate conuenticles con- 73.
trary to the Canons? and whether doth he frequent Tauernes, Alehouses, or any place suspected of incontinencie? or doth he 75.
Table or lodge in any such house? or is he a common gamester at Dice, Cards, Tables, or any other vnlawfull game? or is he a swearer, or drunkard, or one that applyeth not himselfe to his studie, giuen to seruile labour, or is otherwise offensiue, or scandalous to his function and ministery? or doth he not vse de- 74.
cency in his apparell, as by the Canons he is enioyned?

7 Whether is he continually resident vpon his Benefice? or 45.
how long time hath he beene absent from the same? and (in case 47.
he be licensed to be absent) whether doth he cause his Cure to be sufficiently supplyed by a licensed Curat according to the Canons? whether (if he be a Preacher allowed) doth he Preach one Sermon euery Sunday tending to teach true obedience

and

46. and edifying in matters of faith and true religion without in-
termedling with matters of State, or (if not so allowed) doth
he procure monthly Sermons and reade Homilies? and whether
49. (not being so allowed) doth he expound any Scripture, or suf-
fer any man to preach in your Church, whom you have not
well knowne to have beene sufficiently licensed, and who hath not
first subscribed his name, together with the day when hee did
preach, and who was not soberly or decently apparelled, and
who did not conforme himselfe to the Lawes of the Church of
74. England?

8 Whether your Preacher and Lecturer read diuine Ser-
56. uice, and minister the Sacraments twice in the yeare at least
in his owne person, according to the Canons? and whether
55. doth he vse the forme of prayer, before his Sermon, for the
Kings most excellent Maiestie and his progenie, exhorting the
people to obedience to his Maiestie, and other Magistrates in
authority vnder him?

9 Whether doth your Minister on Sundaies and holydaies
catechise the youth and ignorant persons in your parish, accor-
59. ding to the order prescribed in the booke of Common Prayer and
according to the Canons? and whether doth he in the Rogation
dayes vse the perambulation of the circuit of the parish, appoyn-
ted by the Law, according to his dutie?

65. 10 Whether doth he (euery six moneths) denounce in your
Parish Church, all such of your Parish as doe persevere in the
sentence of excommunication or suspention not seeking to be
absolued? and whether hath he admitted any such Excommu-
nicate or suspended person to the Communion, or to the
Church, without Certificate of his absolution vnder the
Iudges seale? and whether doth he, or any of your Parish, fa-
miliarly frequent the company of any such excommunicate
person?

Concerning Parishioners.

11 Whether any of your Parishioners, doe not cause their
Children, Seruants, and Apprentices to come to the
59. minister vpon Sundayes, and Holidayes, to be instructed in the
Catechisme by him? and whether any of them refuse or neg-
le

led to come or comming, refuse to learne those instructions set forth in the booke of Common Prayer? and what be the names of them so not causing, or refusing?

11 Whether any of your Parishioners, or other strangers 13.
sojourning, lodging, or commonly resorting to any house within your Parish, being aboue sixteene yeares of age, doe wilfully or negligently absent themselues from your Parish Church, vpon Sundayes or Holydayes, at Morning and Euening Prayer? or who come very late to Church vpon those dayes? or who depart from Church before the diuine Seruice be finished? or who do not reuerently behaue themselues during the time of di- 18.
uine Seruice, deuoutly kneeling at such times as the generall confession of sinnes, the Letany, the ten Commandements, and all the Prayers and Collects are read? and what Men, Youthes, and Boyes, during all that time, haue not had their heads wholly vncouered, except in case of apparent sicknesse? and who doe vse any gaming or passtime abroad, or in any house, or doe sit in the street, or Churchyard, or in any Tauerne, or Victualling house, vpon any of those dayes in the time of diuine Seruice? and who haue quarrelled, brauled, or vsed violence to any person within your Church or Churchyard? and who haue vsed filthy and prophane talke, or other rude and immodest behauiour? and what be the names of the offenders herein?

13 Whether there be any of, or in your Parish, being Sixteene 21.
yeares of age, and vpward, that doe not receiue the holy Communion in your Church thrice in the yeare at the least, and chiefly once at Easter? and whether any of your Parish doe not deuoutly kneele at the receiuing thereof? and whether doth not your Minister receiue it himselfe, deuoutly kneeling, on euery day that he administreth it to others, and vse the words of Institution at euery time the Bread and Wine is administred? and whether haue all those persons which haue beene partakers of the holy Communion, signified their names vnto the Minister, or vnto some other person (by him thereunto appointed) ouer night, or else in the Morning before the beginning of Morning Prayers, according to the forme prescribed in the booke of Common Prayer aforesaid, to the intent the Minister, and all others appointed to haue the charge and care thereof, may fully be aduertised, and take notice (in due

time) of all them that haue béene Communicants, and of all them that haue not béen Communicants at the time and times appointed for the same? To which purpose, that the people may be prepared so to doe, the Minister shall giue publique warning thereof in
22. the Church, on the next Sunday before the Communion shall be celebrated. And whether doe your selues diligently obserue your office, in marking what persons of, or within your Parish, offend against this, and the next precedent Article, in due presenting of their names?

14 Whether any hauing béene ordained Priest, or Deacon, hath relinquished the same, and betaken himselfe to a course of life as a lay man? and whether any (not being in Orders) do openly read Common Prayer, or execute any ministeriall dutie in the Church, and what bee their names?

15 Whether there bée any that doe publikely or priuately speake against the booke of common Prayer, depraning the same,
4. or any thing therein contained? or doe so speake against, or deprane any of the Articles of Religion, agréed vpon in Anno Domini
6. 1562. or against the Kings royall Supremacie in causes Eccleſia-
2. sticall, or against any of the Rites or Ceremonies of the Church
30. of England, or against the gouernement of the said Church of Eng-
7. land, vnder the Kings most excellent Maiestie, by Arch-bishops, Bishops, Deanes, Arch-deacons, and other Officers thereunto lawfully appointed, affirming that the same is repugnant to the Word of God, and that the said Ecclesiasticall Officers are not lawfully consecrated or ordained? or whether doth any vnreuerently vse their Ministers person or his office and calling by word or déed? or whether there be any that be Authours or maintainers
9. of Schisme, or frequenters of any priuate Conuenticles, or mée-
10. tings? or any that be, or be suspected to be Anabaptists, Libertines,
11. Brownists, or of the Family of Loue, or of any other Heresie, or Schisme, and what be their names?

77. 16 Whether do you know any Schoole-master that doth teach,
48. or Curate that doth reade diuine Seruice within your Parish,
79. without licence of his Ordinarie vnder his Seale? and whether doth not such Schoolemaster instruct his Schollers in the Cate-chisme, and teach them the grounds of Religion, and bring them to Church to heare diuine Seruice and Sermons? and whether is

hée

bée a Tradesman, or Artificer, or any waies reprooueable in life: and whether is your Parish Clarke allowed by the Ordinary: and whether doth your Clarke serue more places than one: and whether doe they demeane themselues according to their seuerall duties: or doe any in your Parish refuse to pay the Clarke his vsuall wages:

17 Whether haue you any Midwiues in your Parish, and how many of them bée there, and how long haue they exercised that Office, and by what authoritie, and how are they approoued by ancient women for their skill therein: and whether haue you in your Parish any that doe practise as Physitians or Chirurgions, and how long haue they done so, and by what authoritie, and of what skill are they reputed in their profession:

18 Whether doe you know any persons that doe administer the goods of the dead, without lawfull authoritie of the Ordinary: or suppresse the last will of the dead: or withhold any stocke of the Church, or any Legacies giuen to charitable and godly vses: and whether is the Almes of the Church faithfully distributed to the vse of the poore: and whether haue you in your parish any persons, who haue not resorted to your Parish Church vpon euery Sunday and Holyday, and there made their abode orderly, and soberly, during all the time of the Common Prayers, and Sermons, and other Seruice of God, according to the expresse charge contained in the Stat. Eliz. and whether the late Churchwardens haue giuen a iust account of all the Church stocke and goods by them had and receiued, according to the Canons: or 68.
whether haue they, or any other of your Parish, alienated any goods, Bells, or other Church goods, and what were the values of them: or whether doe any dwelling in your Parish, or that occupieth ground within your Parish, refuse to pay as they are lawfully ceased, to the Fabricke or Vtensills of your Church, or other necessary duties: Present their names, and defaults, for feare that after your Office expired, you cannot come by the Cessement without making your selues partie to their suite.

19 Whether doe you know in your Parish any common 109.
swearers, drunkards, blasphemers, simoniacall persons, any witches, coniurers, south sayers, charmers, fornicators, adulterers, Incestuous persons, brawlers, common slaunderers of their

Neighbours, Raylers, Scolds, brawlers with Church-wardens or Side-men, for doing their office, filthy and lasciuious talkers, sowers of discord betwixt Neighbours, or any that receiue or lodge incontinent persons, or harbour women with child that be vnmarried, conueying or suffering them to goe away before they haue made satisfaction to the congregation? or any persons that are by common fame noted, or vehemently suspected of any of these crimes, or that being heretofore suspected or presented for any of these faults, haue for that cause departed out of your Parish, and are now returned? you are to specifie their names and offences.

20 Whether there be any persons within your Parish, that be
99. married within the prohibited degrées of Consanguinity, or Affinitie? or whose husbands or wiues are yet aliue, albeit diuorced from them? or that being lawfully married, doe liue scandalously apart? or that were married in times prohibited, or without banes thrée seuerall Sundayes or Holidayes published, hauing no sufficient licence or dispensation for the same? and whether there bée
57. any that doe communicate, or cause their Children to be baptized in other parishes abroad? or kéepe their children vnbaptized longer than is conuenient? and you are to specifie the offender, and offences herein.

21 Whether any woman deliuered of child in your Parish, in time conuenient after childe-birth, hath not come to the vsuall place in the Church, to giue God thankes, as it is appointed by the booke of Common Prayer? and whether doth your Minister admit any thereto, who was begotten with child in adulterie or fornication, without licence from the Ordinary?

23 Whether any person, or persons in your Parish doe vse or exercise, or haue vsed or exercised any Trade, Handicraft, or bodily labour, or doe buy, or sell, or kéepe open shops or ware-houses, vpon any Sunday or Holiday, either by themselues, or their Apprentices or Seruants? or haue otherwise prophaned the said dayes contrary to the orders of the Church of England? and whether there be any Inne-kéepers, Vintners, Ale-house-kéepers, Victuallers, that permit any persons in their houses, to eate, drinke, or play at any games during the time of diuine Seruice or Sermon on those dayes? and you are to specifie the offences and the offenders.

24 Whe-

24 Whether doe any in your Parish familiarly frequent the company of excommunicate persons? and whether doth your Minister, or any of your Parish, without consent of your Ordinary, cause any to doe penance, or to be censured or punished by any Clerky meetings, or otherwise by their owne authority, or doe or have taken any money for any crime, or matter punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes? and you are to specifie the names of them that have beene so punished, and in what manner, and upon what cause.

25. Whether have you, and every of you the Church-wardens and Side-men, immediately after, or else within the space of one weeke next and immediatly ensuing your admission (by vs, or our authority) into this your office, and sithence the same, once in every moneth at the least, diligently and carefully read, or heare read, and duely considered of all and every of these Articles given you in charge? and whether have you, and every of you diligently and carefully endeavoured to enquire and know the offences and offenders against all and every the contents of these Articles? and whether have you duely presented all and every of them vnto the Ordinary, according to your severall oathes? and if any one, or more of you the Church-wardens, and Side-men, doe know, or have heard of any fault enquired of in these Articles, or of any other crime (the reformation whereof belongeth to the Ecclesiasticall Jurisdiction) which hath not beene formerly duely punished by Ecclesiasticall authoritie? that then you shall informe one another thereof, and shall likewise present the same, by vertue of your oathes taken as aforesaid.

26 Whether have you the Church-wardens, and Side-men at fit seasons, met together, and (in the presence of your Minister) conferred of your presentments to be made, and your answers vnto every of these precedent Articles which concerne your parish? and whether have you required your Minister to be present with you, and to assist you at those times? Intimating hereby, that if you will not present, according to your oathes and charge, your Minister may himselfe present such faults and crimes, as are before particularly enquired of in these precedent Articles, for the due reformation of the same.

WHereas in diuers great Pariſhes within the Arch-deaconry of Lincolne, *multitudes of people uſually come to receiue the holy Communion; ſome of whom are perſons excommunicated: is it thought to be very conuenient, that in euery Pariſh the names of all ſuch perſons excommunicated, be alwayes kept in a written booke for that purpoſe from time to time, that ſo the Miniſter (when he is to adminiſter that holy Sacrament) may thereby beremembred of thoſe perſons excommunicated, and ſo auoid them.*

And becauſe that often experience hath manifeſted, that the due reading, and obſeruing of Articles giuen in charge, haue been much neglected, and ſo conſequently offenders haue not been detected, but eſcaped vnpuniſhed, by reaſon that the ſworne Church-wardens, and Side-men, haue either not vnderſtood, or elſe not remembred what they ought to haue done, whereby diuers great inconueniences haue enſued: It will be very needfull for the Church-wardens and Side-men often to view, and conſider their charge expreſſed in the beginning of theſe Articles, and alſo theſe Articles particularly: and to preſent offenders in them ſo often as occaſion ſhall ſerue, leſt by omitting their duty therein they incurre the Cenſure of oath breakers and the puniſhment of periurie in the Eccleſiaſticall Court.

Laſtly, we intimate that we doe not onely deſire to reforme others, but our ſelues alſo: therefore if you know of any Officer of the Iuriſdiction that hath carried himſelfe indirectly in his place: viz. If a Iudge without a Regiſter, or a Regiſter without a Iudge haue ordered, cenſured, or diſmiſſed any from the Iuriſdiction: or if any Officer hath ſuppreſſed or concealed any preſentment, or neglected to doe due execution vpon the ſame: or if any Apparitor haue kept backe from denouncing or certifying any Excommunication or Suſpenſion, or counterfeited any Eccleſiaſticall Proceſſe, or misbehaued himſelfe in any thing pertaining to his Office, let the particulars be ſignified to me, or my Officiall, and they ſhall be both well taken at your hands, and alſo, by Gods aſſiſtance, redreſſed to your ſatisfaction.

FINIS.